

**Minutes of the Board of Regents
of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences**

**Meeting No. 152
July 18, 2005**

The Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences met on July 18, 2005, at the Hilton Harrisburg and Towers, 1 North Second Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The meeting date and agenda were published in the Federal Register and each Regent was duly notified prior to the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. The following members and advisors were in attendance:

Board Members

Everett Alvarez, Jr., J.D., Chair
Linda J. Stierle, M.S.N., R.N., CNAA, Vice Chair
Robert E. Anderson, M.D., Former Member
Otis W. Brawley, M.D., Member
L. D. Britt, M.D., M.P.H., Member
William C. De La Peña, M.D., Member
Sharon A. Falkenheimer, M.D., M.P.H., Member
Vinicio E. Madrigal, M.D., Member
Charles L. Rice, M.D., President, USU
Jack W. Smith, M.D., representing the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Health Affairs
RADM Richard G. Wyatt, representing the Surgeon General of the United States
MG Darrell R. Porr, representing the Surgeon General, U.S. Army
RDML Carol I. Turner, representing the Surgeon General, U.S. Navy
Col Michael W. Spatz, representing the Surgeon General, U.S. Air Force

Advisors to the Board

Larry W. Laughlin, M.D., Ph.D., Dean, F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine
Patricia Hinton Walker, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, Dean, Graduate School of Nursing

AWARD PRESENTATION

Following welcoming remarks, Mr. Alvarez and Dr. Laughlin presented the University's Exceptional Service Medal to Colonel Michael W. Spatz. Colonel Spatz is retiring in August 2005 and has been a consistent advocate of the University.

MATTERS OF GENERAL CONSENT

Mr. Alvarez presented the Consent Calendar following a reminder that any item of consent can be extracted for clarification or discussion:

Tab	7	Minutes, Committee of the Whole, May 19, 2005
Tab	8	Minutes, Board of Regents Meeting, May 20, 2005
Tab	31	Report to the Board, Resource Management
Tab	33	Report to the Board, Recruitment and Diversity Affairs
Tab	34	Report to the Board, Admissions and Academic Records

Tab	35	Report to the Board, Student Affairs
Tabs	36-39	Reports to the Board, Administration and Management
Tab	40	Report to the Board, Clinical Affairs
Tab	41	Report to the Board, Faculty Affairs
Tab	42	Report to the Board, Medical Education
Tab	43	Report to the Board, Brigade
Tab	44	Report to the Board, Faculty Senate
Tab	45	Report to the Board, Henry M. Jackson Foundation

The Board, upon motion duly made and seconded,

Voted by voice vote: To approve the minutes of both aforementioned meetings and accept, as submitted, reports presented to the Board for information.

Mr. Alvarez introduced Lieutenant Colonel Mark Gifford, MSC, USA. LTC Gifford will assume the duties of Executive Secretary, Board of Regents, at the close of today's meeting. Mr. Alvarez thanked Dr. Barry Wolcott and expressed appreciation, both personally and for the Board, for his service as Executive Secretary since February 2004.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Following opening comments, Dr. Rice reported that increasing communication between the University and the Service surgeons general is an important executive priority. He also described USU's upcoming Founder's Day celebrations, especially the Founder's Day Dinner, which will be held on September 9, 2005. Additionally, he expects the contract for the construction of Building E to be awarded in September.

Areas Dr. Rice intends to emphasize over the next six months include:

- Reviewing and updating the University's Strategic Plan
- Reviewing the organizational structure of USU for effectiveness and efficiency
- Initiating communication networks with and among USU's deans, principals in Congress, relevant Federal agencies and local universities

In closing, Dr. Rice expressed his gratitude and appreciation to Dr. Laughlin for serving as Interim President, USU, in addition to his duties as Dean, F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine. Mr. Alvarez echoed these sentiments, both personally and on behalf of the Board of Regents.

DEANS' AND DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

School of Medicine

Dr. Laughlin's report highlighted the following items:

- The current iteration of the Kerkesner/Bushmaster combined field exercise, which contains additional educational modules, greater involvement of faculty from both the Graduate School of Nursing and the School of Medicine, and a huge commitment of time and effort
- The Board can expect an update at the Fall Meeting concerning the Long-term Outcomes Study of USU Graduates
- 98 percent of the Class of 2002 passed as first-time takers Step 3 of the United States Medical Licensing Examination; the national passing rate was 96 percent

- The establishment of a Center for Military Medical Ethics is currently under discussion. Decisions to be made include cost factors and whether the center will be real or virtual
- William Haffner, M.D., Professor and Past Chair, Obstetrics and Gynecology, recently became the President-Elect of the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics
- Twenty-nine percent of the 2005 First Year Class (Class of 2009) are women (a one percent increase compared to last year's entering class) and nine percent are under-represented minorities (a five percent increase compared to the 2004 First Year Class).

Graduate School of Nursing

Topics summarized in Dr. Walker's report included the following:

- A pilot of the on-line-intensive Ph.D. program will begin in January 2006. This program will be in addition to both the full-time and part-time residence options.
- Research by both doctoral students and master's students is being awarded funding support. At the master's level, 11 students have received funding to present their work at scientific conferences.
- The Graduate School of Nursing is becoming well-known for its work in the area of patient safety.
- A review of forthcoming faculty appointments, which will add to the expertise and diversity of the Graduate School of Nursing.

Subsequent discussion reflected the Board's interest in doctoral research concerning pain management and gait following amputation. Dr. Walker will provide updates as this research progresses.

Later in the meeting, Dr. Walker reported that 45 students have been admitted to masters programs beginning in June 2005. The graduation timetable was also briefly discussed.

Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute

COL Jarrett described the institute's challenges as it faces significant funding increases in concert with probable significant decreases in military personnel:

- The research budget may well increase four-fold over the next two years
 - A cooperative agreement with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases adds funds from FY 2005 through FY 2008
 - The institute is a participant in a National Institutes of Health consortium grant application which may add \$5 million a year for the next five years contributing to the establishment of a Center for Medical Countermeasures Against Radiation
 - The Department of Defense has committed over \$40 million to develop radioprotectants
- The institute's infrastructure must be redeveloped and expanded to qualify for these new initiatives

Other topics included the following:

- The institute is working with a wide array of Federal agencies as well as a NATO research task group as an estimated 60 percent of the nation's expertise in radiation casualty countermeasures exists at USU

- This is probably the last year the Army will fund the Medical Effects of Ionizing Radiation Course; other sources are currently being considered

BOARD ACTIONS

Degree Granting – Graduate Education

Dr. Laughlin presented for certification 11 candidates to receive graduate degrees in the biomedical sciences: two to receive a Doctor of Philosophy, two to receive a Master of Science, and seven to receive a Master of Science in Public Health.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To confer the degrees as presented by Dr. Laughlin and recommend to the President and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implements the actions.

Faculty Appointments and Promotions

Dr. Laughlin presented the recommendations made by the Committee of Appointments, Promotion and Tenure at a meeting on June 9, 2005. Six individuals were recommended for faculty appointments or promotions.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To concur with the recommendations of the Committee as presented by Dr. Laughlin and recommend to the President and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the actions.

Award Nomination

Dr. Laughlin presented the nomination and justification for Lenora Few to receive the Board of Regents Exceptional Service Medal. Ms. Few is retiring after 23 years of outstanding service to the Board and the University as a whole.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To concur with the recommendation as presented by Dr. Laughlin.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative Oversight

The committee has been involved in an evaluation of the process used in the University's national search for a new president. Dr. Anderson summarized his written review, which included the following considerations:

- The initial tight time-line contributed to an emphasis on process rather than on the definition of qualities being sought. It also inhibited social interactions on many levels.
- A smaller committee (around 10 instead of the current 22) is usually more effective; additionally, each member's availability as well as past search experience should be considered.
- Greater involvement by the entire Board, both with the committee and with serious candidates, would improve the process.

Ms. Stierle reported that based upon materials reviewed and subsequent discussions, a revised policy statement concerning the president's appointment and succession will be presented to the Board in November 2005.

Annual Report to the Secretary of Defense

Mr. Alvarez reported that the 2005 Annual Report was delivered to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs on June 21, 2005, with an appropriate transmittal memorandum to the Secretary of Defense.

Dr. Brawley will take the committee lead for the 2006 report. Suitable subjects will be discussed during the coming quarter, enabling a topic to be approved at the Fall Meeting.

Recruitment

Dr. Madrigal reviewed committee activities to date and is anxious to re-energize the issue of improving diversity at USU. His remarks included the importance of:

- Working to diversify the faculty as well as the student body
- Establishing clear University policies that recognize the value of diversity
- Examining successful models, such as the U.S. Air Force Academy Preparatory School, for innovative approaches to education as well as recruiting methods

Discussion and follow-up questions included:

- Staffing concerns raised by CAPT Macri in her report to the Board
- The reality of challenging Service personnel issues
- The importance of the Board's involvement in formalizing next steps for USU
- An emphasis on the positive resource enlisted corpsmen present as an applicant pool

Mr. Alvarez asked that thoughts regarding plausible next steps be reported in November.

CLOSING COMMENTS

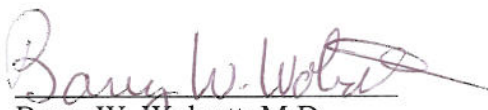
Housekeeping items included:

- A request for periodic updates on the 2005 Department of Defense recommendations for base closures and realignments, especially as they affect graduate medical education
- The determination that the Fall Meeting will occur on November 7, 2005

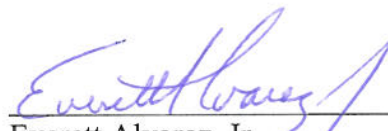
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Alvarez adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

SUBMITTED:


Barry W. Wolcott, M.D.
Executive Secretary, Board of Regents

APPROVED:


Everett Alvarez, Jr.
Chair, Board of Regents

Prepared by Janet S. Taylor